



BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION

January 9, 2012

5:30 p.m., 6th Floor OMB Conference Room
2 Civic Center Plaza, El Paso, TX

MINUTES

Members Present: 6

David Turner, Theresa Welch Fordham, Janet Selzer, Ralph Cloud, Jennifer Barr-Ardovino, Melissa Ann Luna

Members Absent: 2

Frederick Caldwell, James Tolbert

Member Vacancies: 1

Staff Present: Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, Paula Powell, Sports Manager, Liza Ramirez-Tobias, Capital Assets Manager, Marci Tuck, Open Space, Trails and Parks Coordinator, Maggie Binkley, Administrative Assistant

1. Agenda Item #1. Meeting Called to Order
David Turner, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:42 p.m.
2. Agenda Item #2. Approval of Minutes: December 12, 2011
Motion by Jennifer Barr-Ardovino to approve minutes as written. Second by Janet Selzer. Motion carried (unanimous).
3. Agenda Item #3. Call to the Public (for items not on the agenda)
None
4. Agenda Item #4. Parks and Recreation Calendar and Newsletter
Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, highlighted the calendar and newsletter included in the agenda packet. The month of January emphasis is on health and fitness. She also reported that the City's website redesign should be completed by end of January.
5. Agenda Item #5. Subcommittees Reports:
 - a. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Representative Meeting Report - City Plan Commission Subcommittee for Comprehensive Plan Rewrite (Jennifer Barr-Ardovino)

Jennifer Barr-Ardovino reported that the final review for the Comprehensive Plan Rewrite will be next week. The draft is available on the City's website <http://www.elpasotexas.gov>.
6. Agenda Item #6. Discussion and Action: Subcommittee Assignments (as needed)
None

Melissa Ann Luna arrived at 5:50 p.m.

7. Agenda Item #7. Discussion and Action: Proposed Expansion of Crockett Elementary School on .97 acres of Memorial Park
Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, introduced Liza Ramirez-Tobias, new Parks and Recreation Capital Assets Manager. Ms. Tobias will be involved in the proposed use of park land. (handout)

Liza Ramirez-Tobias reviewed the survey on the proposed expansion of Crockett Elementary School on .97 acres of Memorial Park. Discussion followed on taking of park property and the process.

Motion by Ralph Cloud to recommend approval. Second by Theresa Welch Fordham. Motion carried (unanimous).

8. Agenda Item #8. Discussion and Action: Access to Sports Fields
Paula Powell, Sports Manager, identified designated sports fields and explained the permit process for field usage. She reviewed tournaments, city and independent leagues, practice areas, game/practice fields, game “only” fields, field priorities, and the amended City Code. Currently, league presidents (independent leagues) are issued keys to access sports fields that they have permits for. Discussion ensued.

No action taken.

9. Agenda Item #9. Discussion and Action: Hibachis in Parks
Chair Turner tabled the item for next month.

10. Agenda Item #10. Discussion and Action: Park Restroom Policy
Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, reviewed the Restroom Policy and Guidelines, included in packet.

Ralph Cloud reported that Lomaland Park is in need of portable restrooms although it does not meet criteria set by City Council. Discussion followed. Motion by Ralph Cloud and amended by Jennifer Barr-Ardovino to recommend to City Council to reduce criteria from 12 acres to 10 acres and to consider alternative criteria for restroom determination. Second by Theresa Welch Fordham. Motion carried (unanimous).

11. Agenda Item #11. Identify Items for Future Agendas
- Master Plan Update Community Survey Data
 - Dark Sky Ordinance Update

12. Adjournment – 7:00 p.m.